# Erie County Clerk's Office News

Volume 1, Issue 2, Holiday Issue 2003

Erie County Clerk,



### Winter safe driving tips

Never warm up a vehicle in an enclosed area, such as a garage.

Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid gas line free-up

Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface (wet, ice, sand).

Use your seat belt every time you get into your vehicle

Visit our Mobile Auto Bureau; Hours 10a.m. to 3 p.m. at the following Locations

Tuesdays Evans Town Hall 8787 Erie Road (Rt.5)

Wednesdays Grand Island Town Hall 2255 Baseline Road

Thursdays Concord Town Hall 86 Franklin St., Springville

Fridays Clarence Library 3 Town Place



David J. Swarts Erie County Clerk 25 Delaware Avenue Buffalo NewYork 14202 Tel: 716 858-8865

### Swarts Submits 22,000 Signatures Opposing Tolls

Erie County Clerk David J. Swarts presented the NYS Thruway Authority and the members of the Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council with petitions containing over 22,000 signatures of residents opposed to tolls within the commuting area of Buffalo. The petition drive, begun in late August, involved the County Clerk's Office, four County Auto Bureaus, local governments, senior centers, and individuals, as well as an on-line petition found at the County Clerk's website, www.erie.gov/clerk.

Swarts said that the number of petitions returned far exceeded his expectations. "The message from the public is loud and clear. Residents of this County believe that the present configuration of tolls within the commuting range of Buffalo...indeed, circling the City...is inherently unfair. People in our commute area pay more than commuters in other upstate areas," said Swarts

## Happy Holidays **Y**From The Erie County Clerk

"Wishing you every happiness over the holidays and throughout the coming year. During this special season, we should take time to reflect on all we have to be thankful for and to appreciate our families and friends. As you venture out on wintry roads, please be sure to drive safely to protect yourself and your loved ones."

-David Swarts

Holiday Hours The Erie County Clerk's Office at 25 Delaware and the four Auto Bureaus will be closed on December 25 and January 1. The Mobile Auto Bureau will not be in operation on Friday, December 26 or Friday, January 2; however, the four Auto Bureaus will be open for service on those dates.

### **Changes in Store For County Hall**

Massive construction continues as the building prepares for the relocation of the County Clerk's Office to make room for Judicial chambers. An April 2004 date has been targeted for moving the Registrar's Office into the present Surrogate's Court. Files and books have already been relocated to either the newly created 8th floor storage area or space in the basement. Construction disruptions continue, but are part of an overall plan that will ultimately result in a more efficient operation in the Clerk's Office. The new space promises to be significantly more attractive than the present quarters—good news for everyone.

#### County Clerk's Office Proposes Innovation To Help Local Police Departments

Swarts Says Cooperative Effort Will Save Money for Towns, Time for Applicants

In a consolidation effort aimed at saving Police resources for Town and Village Police Departments, Erie County Clerk David J. Swarts announced that his Office of Pistol Permits has taken responsibility for conducting background checks required for the processing of pistol permits in Amherst, Hamburg, Lancaster and Depew. The County Clerk's office already conducts background checks for applicants in the City of Buffalo and Towns served by the County Sheriff's Department

"Police Departments are extremely overworked and need all available personnel for actual police work.



Erie County Clerk David J. Swarts joined with Erie County Sheriff Patrick M. Gallivan to announce plan

By offering to take over background checks, a time-consuming, but necessary procedure, we can help free up resources for them to do more essential work," said Swarts